

## RESERVOIR ON MOUNT FRANKLIN; \$250,000 WOULD CONSTRUCT IT

W. E. Race Suggests Method of Reducing Cost of Operating Municipal Waterworks by Constructing Giant Reservoir on Side of Mountain; Would Eliminate Needless Duplication of Machinery.

WHY not build a reservoir on the side of Mount Franklin and reduce the operating expenses of the city waterworks department of the city, which is entirely feasible?

William E. Race, superintendent of the waterworks department of the city, desires that it be entirely feasible. "The city could build a reservoir at a cost not to exceed \$250,000," said Mr. Race in discussing the project, "and it would be a great investment. It would accomplish two great results—reduce the operating expenses of the system and make possible a better distribution of the water supply of the city, both on elevated territory and on the territory already within the range of the present system.

stations' by doing away with the 'booster plants'.

"The plan would require the building of a reservoir placed at a proper elevation on Mount Franklin, west of the mesa pumping station, and the laying of a water main to the city carried at elevations that would supply all elevated territory connected with the city. It would be necessary, also, to provide auxiliary reservoirs to regulate the pressure.

"In conjunction with the high territory system, a 24 inch main force line from the mesa plant should be installed to meet the increasing demands of the city and also reduce operating expenses.

"These improvements would meet the demands of El Paso for many years to come and should result in increasing the earnings of the city waterworks to such an extent as to obviate the necessity of further bond issues for several years."

**Enlarging Present Plant.**  
The high territory system advocated

by Mr. Race is a project for future consideration, and the attention of the department is now directed towards enlarging the present system. Just now considerable work is going on, and the city has just installed a "booster plant" near the city reservoir in Sunset Heights that meets present needs of the elevated district west of Mount Franklin, including the new high school site and the surrounding property. This plant, under recent test, pumped 100,000 gallons of water against a pressure equal to 250 feet elevation on 20 gallons of 40 degree fuel No. 2 Solar oil, at a fuel cost of \$1.60. This plant is complete and is equipped with an air starter and can be operated by anyone.

**Give Big Capacity.**

At the mesa pumping station new machinery is being installed that will give the station a pumping capacity of 1,000,000 gallons in 24 hours. The new machinery is built in two units, each working one pump and one compressor. The two pumps each have a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons every 24 hours, and will increase the water supply 4,000,000 gallons. The two compressors have a capacity of 2,000 cubic feet of air per minute.

The power machinery, which will develop 482 horse power, consists of two ten-ton vertical, four cycle fuel oil engines. They use fuel oil, the same as is now used in the boilers for generating steam. The machinery on the foundations weighs 225,400 pounds. The machinery is being installed by Armando Wilz, construction engineer from the Fulton Ironworks.

**200 Percent Reduction in Cost.**

At the "booster plant" now operating at the Altura pumping station there can be installed, it is claimed by Mr. Race at an expense of \$250,000 a larger and more economically operated engine that would increase the pumping capacity at that station and reduce the operating expense of the booster station to an amount that would pay for such a plant within two years. This

proposed engine, it is stated, could be operated at an expense of 200 percent under the present expense, and would have power to double the present capacity.

Some interesting comparisons are made of the output of the waterworks plants privately operated in 1905 and 1910 with the system under city ownership at the close of the year 1914.

**Growth of Plant.**

In December, 1905, under the Watts system, there were 18 miles, or 35,000 feet, of water pipe in use. In 1910, the International Water company had 45 miles, or 253,440 feet, of water pipe. In December, 1914, the city plant embraced 110 miles of water, pipe, or 632,640 feet. Under the Watts system pipes ranging from one inch to 18 inches were in use. The largest pipe in 1910 was 16 inches, while the present system uses water mains up to 24 inches in diameter. The pumping capacity from the Watts system in 1905 was 2,500,000 gallons. In 1910 the capacity was 4,600,000 gallons, of which 2,300,000 was from the Watts wells and 2,300,000 from the mesa wells.

In 1914, the capacity was 7,900,000 gallons for domestic purposes, all from the mesa wells. The total pumping capacity for fire is now 11,000,000 gallons, as against 4,600,000 in 1910 and 2,500,000 in 1905. The total fire protection supply is now 15,000,000 gallons, including reservoir supply, while in 1910 it was 2,800,000 gallons in 1910 and only 4,000,000 gallons in 1905. The number of wells in nine years has been increased from one to 12. In 1914, while the plant was owned by the International Water company 12 wells were in use.

**140 Percent Increase in Pumping.**

It will be noted that the pumping capacity for fire protection has been increased 140 percent for continuous use, while the total pumping capacity from the mesa has been increased 150 percent for continuous use over that available from the mesa before city ownership.

ship. The total pumping capacity of each tank has been increased from 327 gallons in 1905 to 1282 gallons. In 1910 the figures were 1008 gallons. Service pipe to meters now number 170,640 feet compared to 91,290 feet in 1910 and 54,000 feet in 1905. There are now 8350 water connections, against 4569 in 1910 and but 2709 in 1905. It will be noticed that the number of connections since city ownership has nearly doubled, yet the capacity available for each connection has been increased but 21 percent.

**SAYS U. S. FIRM STAND OCCASIONS SOME SURPRISE**

London, Eng., May 15.—The sudden firmness of the United States with respect to Germany has somewhat surprised England, according to the Spectator.

"Either Germany," the Spectator adds, "thinks the United States is so deeply committed to neutrality or so divided in her nationality that she dares not

proceed beyond remonstrances and would be satisfied with her half contemptuous expressions of regret, or else she is indifferent whether America enters the war or keeps out.

"It is idle to ignore the fact that the general public of this country has felt surprise, even some resentment at the light way in which America appeared to take her international obligations, even her personal injuries.

"Let us say here emphatically that the British people have not the slightest wish that the United States should enter the war. There are various reasons why the neutrality of the United States in the war is as helpful to us as her participation would be."

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## CLEAN-UP DAY



MAYOR TOM LEA.

### Mayor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the present city administration that all citizens unite in an effort to clean all alleys, vacant lots and private property located within the corporate limits of the city, to the end that our city may present a clean and beautiful appearance and be more healthful for our citizenship.

THEREFORE, I, TOM LEA, Mayor of the city of El Paso, Texas, hereby designate Saturday, May 22d, 1915, as "Clean-Up Day," and earnestly request that all citizens, all children and home owners, work together and give their cooperation to the Sanitary Department on that day, to the end that El Paso may be more cleanly, more beautiful than ever before.

Done at El Paso this 11th day of May, 1915.  
(Signed) Tom Lea,  
Mayor, City of El Paso.

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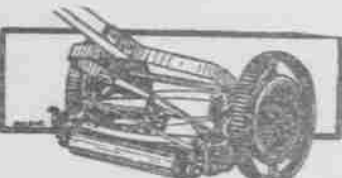
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